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(Note to the editor: According to Outlook reports, there will be an increase in home sewing this year because of the fact that ready-made garments are expected to be relatively higher in price, but yard goods prices are not expected to increase very much. You may wish to use the workmanship details in the making of an unlined coat as the basis of a story from your own staff on the particular type of clothing work now in progress in your State.)

WORKMANSHIP DETAILS IN MAKING AN UNLINED SPRING COAT

Cut accurately with the grain of the cloth and with ample seam allowances. Match the corresponding sections carefully. If there is a self pattern or stripe in the fabric, see that it runs exactly the same on both sections of the front and on both sleeves.

Baste the principal seams of the coat and the sleeves carefully to try on. When satisfied with the fit, stitch them, using a preshrunk stay tape in the seams to prevent stretching. Use carefully matched thread to sew with.

Thoroughly press seams open as you finish them, using a moderate iron and a damp press cloth over a dry one. You can press sleeve seams on a broomstick if you do not have a sleeve board. Bind all seam edges with preshrunk ribbon slightly eased on as basted because machine stitching tightens it.

Attach one-half of the collar to the neck of the coat, the other to the two facings. Press seams, then baste the facings to the coat, right sides together. Stitch, taping these seams the same as those in the body of the coat, press seams open, then turn facings to the inside and baste close to the edge. After this, press thoroughly for a sharp edge. Slip-stitch to the inside of the coat, taking care that the stitching does not show on the right side.

Check for even length and turn up a hem of about 1-1/2 inches around the lower edge of the coat and its facings as well. Press to insure accuracy in level and smoothness when hemming. After trimming to an even width, stitch ribbon binding along the turned-up edge and blind-hem or catch-stitch this to the coat.

For a finish on some coats it may be desirable to stitch close to the edge of the fronts and around the collar, but not across the hem, which is hand-finished.

Complete the sleeves, baste in place, and stitch around the armhole, taping it to preserve the shape. Bind the armhole seam.

Buttonholes, whether worked or bound, should always be cut with the thread of the goods. Loops are satisfactory if they are even in width, strengthened by an inside cord, and securely caught in the edge seam of the coat.

Buttons will stay on longer and pull less on the coat fabric if a small stay button is used on the under side. Make a strong thread shank for each button. Avoid buttons with rough edges which wear out buttonholes, or those made largely of cardboard.

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